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and our precious old Monroe Doctrine so far—and now, if the Germans get to Vladivostok and control the Siberian Bolsheviki as easily as they do the Finnish and others, only the Japanese navy can save California from becoming a second Belgium. And of course Japan will risk every last man, ship and gun to save California!

Nothing is so plain, straight and clear as that the German propagandists are behind all this opposition to Japan protecting her people and her interests in the Siberian coast province and preventing Germany from getting a foothold in the Pacific again.

Are we going to help them, or just hinder and insult an Ally?

E. R. S.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

WASTING TIME OVER PRINCIPLES

SIR,—The March copy of THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW and the following letter were laid on my desk at the same time. The presence of the REVIEW suggested my giving you a copy of the letter, which is self-explanatory.

With reference to the letter, it has occurred to me that a man who occupies the place that you occupy among American readers might be able to do a little something towards instilling common sense in the labor department of the present Administration.

The writer is in charge of the manufacture and production of lumber at a Rock Creek plant, and at the present time he is engaged chiefly in getting out considerable quantity of material for use of the ship yards. The action of the Government in establishing what they call basic principles of the eight-hour day among the West Coast mills will undoubtedly foreshadow a like action for the mills in the South. My chief point is this: Does the Government want ships, or do they want to waste their time establishing basic principles that are from one to two years old? At least, the writer never heard of a basic principle of an eight-hour day prior to the advent of the present Administration. The establishment of an eight-hour day on the Coast is nothing more or less than a submission to the demands of the I. W. W.'s, and will entail a decided curtailment in the production of ship stock. If this principle is carried out among the Southern mills, it will entail another decrease in the production of ship stock.

I would appreciate some light on just what the Government does want. This much we do know, that it is impossible to manufacture as much lumber in eight hours as it is in ten hours with or without basic principles. If ship stock is what the Government wants, why not leave the mills alone, or if any interference is to take place, let it be of some beneficial character, instead of an order which really curtails production. Either we are running a tremendous bluff that we are at war and that the war is going to be won on basic eight-hour principles, or we are playing rotten politics.

The writer would appreciate a letter from you giving your opinion as to just what you think of the basic principle of an eight-hour day, and its relation to the lumber industry.

Incidentally, there has been a great deal of comment in the papers

about the inability of the Government to secure timber in the South. You can take it from a man who knows that that talk is all foolishness, as the timber is here and can be sent to the ship yards, and I believe that the present organization that is handling the Emergency Fleet Corporation work is composed of men who are really going to get results.

E. J. BOOTH.

TRINITY, TEXAS.

[Enclosure]

SOUTHERN PINE ASSOCIATION

NEW ORLEANS, LA., March 2, 1918.

TO SUBSCRIBERS:

WEST COAST LUMBER INDUSTRY PLACED
ON EIGHT-HOUR BASIS WITH MAXIMUM
WAGE SCALE BY GOVERNMENT ORDER

The entire lumber industry of the North Pacific Coast went on an eight-hour day March 1st, by Government order issued through Colonel Disque of the U. S. Signal Corps, after consultation with Government authorities in Washington.

It is understood that no overtime will be allowed for work in excess of eight hours. A maximum wage scale will be fixed by the Government and announced within a few days. A penalty is provided for lumber manufacturers working labor in mills or camps in excess of eight hours or for violation of the wage scale.

The above for your information.

Yours truly,

SOUTHERN PINE ASSOCIATION.

DISCOVERIES

SIR,—During these momentous days of our national life I have been an ardent reader of THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW. I have read with great concern, most especially, your editorials—those relevant to the policies of the Administration at Washington.

You have devoted much space to criticism which impresses me as being mere spontaneous outbursts of personal prejudice and jealousy directed solely at the President, Woodrow Wilson, who has the endorsement of a United People. This is not the time, when millions of liberty-loving people are fighting the Hun to maintain their liberty and democratic ideals, for you, Mr. Editor, to display partisan politics in an endeavor to secure a political berth for Roosevelt. Each editorial is an unjust effusion of your political ambitions and a campaign speech for T. R.

Survey the achievements of our Government since the declaration of war against Germany a little more than a year ago. The progress made is remarkable—almost unbelievable—but true nevertheless. Men, real Americans, who have been "Over There" testify to the veracity of my statement. A personal trip to Europe, Mr. Editor, would doubtless serve to cast the beam from your eye and enable you to see the accomplishments of our military machine of which you are so absurdly ignorant.

On your return to America I feel sure you will take occasion to congratulate the Secretary of War, Mr. Baker, on the splendid progress made